

TROOPS BEING PUSHED TO BORDER OF MEXICO FOR VILLA EXPEDITION

FORCES TO MOVE WITHIN 72 HOURS

Gen. Funston Is Pushing Preparations for the Villa Expedition.

ONE OF HIS SUBORDINATES
WILL COMMAND THE ARMY

Aero Squadron Expected to Fly Over
Border Late Today to Keep
Watch on Quarry.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 11.—Instructed by the War Department at Washington that he was not personally to command the troops that will cross the Rio Grande into Mexico to search for Francisco Villa, Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston today began to arrange the details of the expedition and to plan for the safeguarding of the entire Mexican border.

During the day the general conferred frequently with his staff at Fort Sam Houston, southern department headquarters. A close censorship was established, however, on proceedings. All announcements were made by Gen. Funston himself.

Gen. Funston's Announcement.
From Gen. Funston came this information: That an officer subordinate to him, a brigadier general, would command the punitive expedition.

That this officer would have complete charge in the field and would not be hampered by unnecessary instructions. That it would take two or three days to organize the force or forces that will go in pursuit of Villa.

That the first aero squadron, stationed at Fort Sam Houston, will be a part of the expeditionary force. That a close watch will be kept at all border points for any symptoms of disorder that will necessitate the movement of troops.

Disposition of Forces Secret.
Gen. Funston, for military reasons, refused to state how large the expeditionary force would be; the time the forward movement would start; whether there would be one or several forces, and the point or points at which the Rio Grande would be crossed when the search began.

It was known yesterday that Gen. Funston was willing personally to lead the force searching for Villa. It was explained here, however, that the War Department thought it best to keep Gen. Funston at southern department headquarters, where he would be in touch with and could direct the entire border situation.

If there should be more than one expeditionary force, the common direction will fall to Gen. Funston.

Another reason assigned was that the entire routine of the southern department would be interrupted if the commanding general were in the field. Gen. Funston said, too, that his place probably would have to be filled by an officer of lesser rank, not in touch with the border situation.

It is expected, however, that Gen. Funston will make frequent visits to the positions occupied by the invading troops.

The movement toward the border of troops from departments other than that commanded by Gen. Funston already has been initiated, it is understood. The amalgamation of scattered fragments of regiments, transportation, the equipment of the commissary and other details, would require, it was estimated by the general, at least two and probably three days. All such troops will be transported directly to the border.

The utmost secrecy regarding the exact destination will be maintained. Gen. Funston has insisted on this precaution to the War Department in order that Villa may be kept as much in the dark as possible.

Army officers at Fort Sam Houston believe the border is infested with Mexicans friendly to Villa who will do all in their power to keep him informed.

May Be a Long Chase.
Estimates of the time required to capture the former constitutionalist leader are obtainable, but there is a feeling at the Southern Department headquarters that the chase would be similar to the one which had as its object the seizure of Aguinaldo in the Philippines years ago.

Army officers are interested in the part the 1st Aero Squadron will play in the pursuit. No American aero squadron ever before has had actual military service. Machines were sent to Vera Cruz and there has been aerial scouting done along the border, but this is the first real test of the "fourth arm" of the service.

It is not known when the squadron will leave San Antonio, but it has been announced that it will be ready by tomorrow afternoon. Weather conditions now are perfect for flying and it is

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SENDS MORE MEN FOR PATROL DUTY

Gen. Scott Orders Three Regiments to Guard Along Rio Grande.

SUPPRESSES DISPATCHES
RELATING TO ARMY PLANS

Brig. Gen. Pershing Believed to Be
Picked to Command Force to
Capture Bandit.

With heavy reinforcements of cavalry ordered to the Mexican border, Maj. Gen. Funston is moving his troops against Pancho Villa under a veil of strict secrecy. Secretary Baker said late last night that the War Department has not been advised that any troops have crossed the border. Several dispatches described border movements of troops, but these were suppressed, as they might give some inkling of the direction in which Gen. Funston is moving.

Four Regiments for Patrol Duty.
Gen. Funston last night asked the department for four additional regiments of cavalry for patrol duty. Gen. Scott, chief of staff, immediately issued orders for the 1st Cavalry, Monterey, Cal.; the 11th Cavalry, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga.; and the 12th Cavalry, Robinson, Neb., to proceed at once to the border.

The 5th Cavalry, which is divided into two squadrons, is stationed at Fort Myer, Va.; Fort Sheridan, Ill., and Fort Leavenworth, Kan., was ordered to hold itself in readiness.

Gen. Funston advised the department that this fourth additional regiment is not immediately needed.

Are Ready at Fort Myer.
"We are as ready now as we ever will be," said Col. Wilder, in command of the Fort Myer squadron, last night. "There has been no excitement, but naturally the men are eager to get to the border as soon as possible. About 320 men will go with the cavalry regiments, and the 3d Field Artillery are also in readiness."

Gen. Funston reported various troop movements along the border, but the dispatches were not made public. The general's requests as to supplies and auxiliary troops of the special corps were promptly complied with, but details of these requests were kept secret. Gen. Funston estimated it would take from three to five days for the three cavalry regiments to reach the border. The regiments from Monterey, Cal., probably will be the first to arrive.

For Detail Near Columbus.
While no announcement was made, the order was construed to mean that Gen. Funston intended to employ the four cavalry regiments now on duty along the border both to the east and west of Columbus as part of his expeditionary force, which it is understood, will be under the direct command of Brig. Gen. Pershing. A regiment of mountain artillery, with twenty-four guns packed on mules, also is available in that district, and this force, with necessary engineers to repair railroad bridges destroyed by the bandits, and possibly with aeroplane scouts, probably will constitute the expedition.

The force would number, if composed of four cavalry regiments and a battalion of mountain artillery, approximately 4,000 fighting men, exclusive of engineers and other auxiliary troops. In a recent report to the department Gen. Funston stated that he had 3,000, although some officers here have placed the figure as high as 5,000.

Villa Bands Have Scattered.
It is taken for granted by officers here, however, that the Villa bands have already scattered among the hills, and they do not look for a pitched battle, which, they say, would mean certain annihilation of the bandits.

Any movement the American troops make in the territory south and southwest of Columbus, into which the bandits fled, will be influenced by the location of waterholes, grazing stations and other places where horses and men can obtain water in a dry and sandy country. It was noted that the commander of the expedition probably would station guards at the waterholes to prevent the bandits from making use of them.

War Department officials, who had given the border commander a free hand in working out details of the expedition, made it clear that they regarded it imperative to success that all information which might aid Villa in eluding the American forces must be gathered scrupulously.

Drive to Be Quick and Certain.
It was apparent only that the military plans contemplated a drive into Mexico that should be both quick and certain. The War Department is willing to take no chances by weakening the border patrol and Gen. Funston's orders were not to move until he was fully prepared.

Secretary Baker and his chief subordinates remained at the War Department until late last night, receiving information which might aid Villa in eluding the American forces must be gathered scrupulously.

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TEUTON ADVANCES IN VERDUN REGION TEMPORARILY HALT

Heavy Bombardment of Regions About Douaumont Continue, However.

ACTIVITY OF BIG GUNS
LESS MARKED ELSEWHERE

Teutons Reported to Have Lost
Heavily in Most Recent
Attacks.

GROUND COVERED WITH DEAD

Possession of Corbeaux Wood and Hill 265 May Materially Assist Crown Prince in Further Offensives on Cote de L'Oie.

LONDON, March 11.—The German offensive for the time being has been slackened in the Verdun region. The French official report announces that there has been no recent attempt at infantry action on the part of the Germans along the whole of the front.

On the east bank of the Meuse the region around Douaumont is being subjected to a heavy bombardment, but the rest of the center and in the Woivre the guns are not working so actively, and on the western bank of the Meuse, in that section from Bethincourt to the Cote de L'Oie, the artillery duel has been comparatively unimportant. In that region the Germans claim to have retaken most of the Corbeaux wood, the possession of which is likely to prove a factor in an attack on the Cote de L'Oie, the Germans are holding Hill 265, to the northeast of that important strategic position.

Heavy German Losses.

Describing the German attacks on the French trenches west of Douaumont Friday, the official statement of the French war office says that the Germans, three times, in columns of four, rushed forward to the assault, but were mowed down by artillery and machine gun fire. They were forced to retire, leaving the ground covered with dead bodies.

French Communication.

The following official communication was issued by the French war office tonight:

"In Belgium destructive fires were directed against the trenches and underground works of the enemy in the region of Steenstraete and the environs of Bixchoete.

"In Artois, to the east of Neuville, we exploded a mine, the result of which we occupied the Somme and the Oise we bombarded German organizations in the region of the Bois de la Butte, south of La Ville Aux Bois.

Action of Artillery.

"On the left bank of the Meuse the activity of the two artilleries was less spirited during the course of the day. On the right bank an intense bombardment is being maintained in the region west of Douaumont. It has not been so intense on the rest of the center or in the Woivre.

"The enemy did not attempt any infantry action along the whole of our front. According to the latest reports, the fruitless assaults launched yesterday against our trenches west of Douaumont were very disastrous to the enemy. The Germans attacked three times in columns of four, but were mowed down by artillery fire and the fire of our machine guns.

"Today, in the region of Douaumont, one of our aeroplanes brought down a Fokker machine, which fell in flames inside the German lines.

The Belgian official communication reads: "Last night was disturbed only by some artillery fire on the southern part of our front. There is nothing to report today except the usual artillery actions."

British Communication.

The official report from British headquarters in France reads: "We exploded three mines east of Verdun with satisfactory results. The artillery on both sides has been active about Albert, Hulluch and Ypres."

Germany Discounts All

Claims Her Armies Have
Suffered Great Losses.

BERLIN, March 10, via London, March 11.—The German losses in the Verdun operations up to the end of last week, though accurately and officially still unknown, are said to reach a total of only a few thousand in killed, wounded and missing, according to a statement obtained through an authoritative source.

This total includes the losses in driving the first breach in the French position north of Verdun, the capture of successive ridges of this wood and the forest region down to the actual works of the fortifications, and the storming of Fort Douaumont, but not the operations on the west bank of the river. It is interesting to contrast these

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STREET CAR MEN AND COMPANIES AGREE, BOTH MAKING CONCESSIONS, BUT EMPLOYEES WIN GREATER PART OF THEIR DEMANDS

Increases in Wages as well as Better Working Conditions Are
Granted—Arbitration Not Now Necessary—Temporary
Deadlock Over Settlement of Future Grievances.

The street railway companies and the street railway employees have come to terms.

This agreement was reached shortly after 4 o'clock this morning, following an all-night session in the District building.

The agreement was reached without having recourse to arbitration. Both sides made concessions.

Mass Meeting Held.

Simultaneously there was a mass meeting of the employees being held in National Rifles Armory, which was attended by more than 1,000 street railway workmen.

Rosen Orr, organizer for the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, left the conference in the District building about 2:30 a.m. and went to the mass meeting in National Rifles Armory, where he explained to the workmen the terms of the agreement.

Following the reaching of an agreement at the conference in the District building this morning went to the mass meeting in National Rifles Armory, where he explained to the workmen the terms of the agreement.

The principal difficulty arose over the question of procedure in cases where the companies and the grievance committee cannot reach an amicable agreement. The proposal of the employees was that they should appoint one member of a committee to consider such differences, and the companies should appoint another and these two should select a third.

Representatives of the companies did not like this arrangement, and a compromise was finally reached whereby all future disputes that cannot be settled between the companies and the grievance committee are to be submitted to the public utilities commission. This was assented to by Commissioner Newman.

Men Are Victorious.

Next to this question of settlement of future disagreements the hardest contest came over the demands of the employees regarding working hours. The men won out, securing practically all that they asked.

The District Commissioners and federal authorities had conducted this conference for practically twelve hours. Secretary of Labor Wilson joined the conference shortly before midnight. Frequent communications passed between the representatives of the men in this conference and their fellow-workmen in session in National Rifles Armory.

Conference Begun in Afternoon.

The conference yesterday began at 3:30 o'clock and continued until 6:45, when a recess was taken. At 8:30 o'clock officials of the companies and representatives of the men again went into session, the former using Commissioner Newman's office, while the employees were quartered in Commissioner Brownlow's office.

The conference continued in session at the District building and this conference led to a belief that an agreement, without an arbitration by outsiders, was then strongly hoped for. The agreement was announced about 4 a.m.

Because of their connection as "go-betweens" in the proceedings, the District Commissioners remained on the job all evening.

TERMS OF AGREEMENT
IN STREET CAR PARLEY

Both sides make concessions. Companies grant material increases in wages, but not all that the men asked.

Companies grant practically all demands as to housing, grievance committee of employees and will confer with this committee on all future disagreements.

Compromise arrangement provides that when a company and its grievance committee cannot agree the dispute is to be referred to the public utilities commission.

The first year to 27 cents for men who have been in service ten years or longer.

All of the men discharged are to be reinstated.

The working hours are to be so regulated that the men will have eight hours' rest in twenty-four.

The working day is to be ten hours in sixteen.

The companies agreed to recognize the grievance committee of the employees in all future disagreements and to treat with this committee for a settlement.

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BORLAND RIDER KILLED UNDER RULING BY CHAIR ON A POINT OF ORDER

Its Author Then Offers Substitute Providing
For Reduction in the Number of
Government Employees.

SUBSTITUTE FOR REJECTED RIDER

The original Borland rider for an uncompensated extra hour per day for government clerks was killed yesterday on a point of order.

Representative Borland immediately offered a substitute, providing an extra hour and a 10 per cent reduction in the entire government clerical service and the District government force. Representative Mondell offered a point of order against it, which is still pending.

The new Borland rider is:

"That the number of persons in the classified service authorized to be employed in the several executive departments and other executive establishments and the government of the District of Columbia shall be reduced by one-tenth on or before the 30th day of June, 1917; and in order that such reduction may be made without loss of service to the government and to equalize the hours of work required of those in the classified employments of the United States, it is made the duty of the heads of the several executive departments and other executive establishments and the government of the District of Columbia to hereafter require, subject to the provisions and exceptions of section 7 of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act for the fiscal year 1899, approved March 15, 1898, not less than eight hours of labor each day, except Sundays and days declared public holidays by law or executive order.

"Provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to the classified employees in those branches of the public service in which employees are now required to work eight hours a day."

The Borland rider, providing an extra hour for the workday of government clerks without added compensation, was killed in the House yesterday following a point of order made against it by Representative Mondell of Wyoming. Representative Crisp of Georgia, acting as chairman of the committee of the whole having the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill under consideration, after hearing arguments pro and con, ruled that the rider had no place in an appropriation bill.

MR. BORLAND OFFERS SUBSTITUTE.

Immediately Representative Borland offered a substitute amendment providing that a 10 per cent reduction be made in the clerical forces of the executive departments and of the District government by June 30, 1917, and that an eight-hour day be set as the minimum. Representative Mondell immediately made a point of order again on the ground that it has no place in an appropriation bill. The amendment and the point of order were pending when the House adjourned, and will be taken up immediately when the House next discusses the legislative bill, which probably will be Tuesday. Tomorrow will be District day, unless the ways and means committee brings up the bill to repeal the sugar clause of the Underwood tariff act.

No Surprise to Members.

The offering of the 10 per cent reduction substitute did not come as a surprise to the members of the House who had been watching the Borland rider. Neither is it taken seriously by the majority of the House, which seems to be of a mind to defeat any attempt to do an injustice to the government clerks. Representative Mondell, whose amendment killed the original Borland rider, is ready with another weapon in certain instances legislation is in order. The chair is of the opinion that the number or salary of any officer of the United States. The chair is also of the opinion that it does not within the meaning of the rule reduce the compensation of any person paid out of the Treasury of the United States, and the chair is of the opinion that it does not reduce the amount of money covered by the bill.

Text of Second Rider.

Representative Borland's substitute proposal is as follows: "That the number of persons in the classified service authorized to be employed in the several executive departments and other executive establishments and the government of the District of Columbia shall be reduced by one-tenth on or before the 30th day of June, 1917, and in order that such reduction may be made without loss of service to the government and to equalize the hours of work required of those in the classified employments of the United States it is made the duty of the heads of the several executive departments and other executive establishments and the government of the District of Columbia to hereafter require, subject to the provisions and exceptions of section 7 of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act for the fiscal year 1899, approved March 15, 1898, not less than eight hours of labor each day, except Sundays and days declared public holidays by law or executive order.

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Battle of Parliamentary Lawyers.

The merits of the added-hour amendment were in reality scarcely touched upon during the debate leading up to Chairman Crisp's ruling that the original rider had no place in an appropriation bill. It was a battle of parliamentary lawyers, and much of the discussion was merely a recitation of rulings that had been made on riders in years past. Chairman Crisp, recognized as one of the really great parliamentarians of the House, listened for an hour and announced himself ready to rule.

Without hesitating, or searching for an expression or a word, he reviewed the salient features of the discussions, laid down the facts in the case as they appeared to him, and then ruled the Borland rider to enter darkness.

Chairman Crisp's Ruling.

The entire ruling contains much parliamentary law and several precedents, but the vital words were these: "It was the practice under the rules of the House that legislation is not in order on an appropriation bill unless it comes within the exception known as the Holman rule. Under that rule certain instances legislation is in order. The chair is of the opinion that the number or salary of any officer of the United States. The chair is also of the opinion that it does not within the meaning of the rule reduce the compensation of any person paid out of the Treasury of the United States, and the chair is of the opinion that it does not reduce the amount of money covered by the bill.

"Then the question arises that the chair determine whether the amendment is in order under the provision of the Holman rule. The gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Borland, and the gentleman from Wyoming, Mr. Mondell, both concede that the committee on appropriations is not a legislative committee. Therefore their amendment does not have authority to that effect, although the chair could do so.

"Discusses 'Germane Amendments.' "In the opinion of the chair an individual member can offer germane amendments and if they fall within any of the excepted classes the amendments are in order, even if legislation. But the chair has ruled that in the opinion of the chair the section in question does not come within any of those three classes. The committee on appropriations, being a non-legislative committee, has not more authority to insert as a part of a bill section 6, than any member would have the right to offer said section 6 as an amendment on the floor of the House.

"The chair does not feel that it is incumbent on him to pass upon section 6 as to whether or not it is germane expenditures. The chair, however, is of the opinion that under the Holman rule the amendment does not have authority to that effect, although the chair could do so.

"As before stated, however, the chair is not required to pass upon that for the chair is clearly of the opinion that any amendment that reduces expenditures, to be in order under the Holman rule, must come from a committee having jurisdiction of a legislative subject. The committee on appropriations in

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